

**HABS No. AZ-145-B**

Phoenix Indian School, Dairy/Milking Shed  
(Facility Management Office Storeroom)  
Northeast Corner of Central Avenue and Indian School Rd.  
Phoenix  
Maricopa County  
Arizona

HABS  
ARIZ  
7-PHEN  
17B-

**PHOTOGRAPHS**

**WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA**

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Western Region  
Department of the Interior  
San Francisco, California 94107

HABS  
ARIZ  
7-PHEN,  
17B-

## HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

PHOENIX INDIAN SCHOOL, DAIRY/MILKING SHED (Facility Management  
Office Storeroom) HABS NO.: AZ-145-B

Location: Northeast Corner of Central Avenue and Indian School Road  
Phoenix  
Maricopa County  
Arizona

USGS Phoenix 1952/Sunnyslope 1965 Quadrangles  
War Memorial UTM Coordinates: 12. 400710. 3706720

Present Owner: U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service,  
P.O. Box 37127, Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

Present Occupant: Unoccupied.

Present Use: None.

Statement of Significance: The Dairy is one of the two buildings remaining from the earliest phase of building on the site, and is one of the last surviving records of the vocational training activities on the site that predominated throughout the early decades of the history of the School. Its simple character recorded the late nineteenth-century vernacular building mode that gave the School its first physical identity.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History.

1. Date of erection: 1903 (Keel); 1926 (Pierson, but that is clearly wrong; Pierson also gives the date 1906 for a Barn [perhaps the Dairy/Milking Shed]; not earlier than 1892; probably not later than 1906; the building is shown on the 1910 Site Plan.
2. Architect/Builder: Architect not known; builder not known.
3. Original and Subsequent Owners: U.S. Department of the Interior.
4. Alterations and additions: The plain brickwork of the exterior was covered with one or more thick layers of stucco, and painted, obscuring the original wall surfaces and details; the original south porch was removed and the south wall was raised to form a gable end; the original roof over the dairy was raised, and the continuous monitor at the ridge line was removed; the original corrugated iron roofing was covered with a new layer of corrugated iron; the west side saw an addition, and replacement of the original windows; the Milking Shed attached to the north face was closed in on the east and west sides, the hipped roof at the north end was removed and a new building erected contiguously to the north; and the interior lost any original fixtures and was allowed to degrade to the point of virtual unrecognizability of any original function.

B. Historical Context.

The Dairy was built in the earliest phase of the development of the Phoenix Indian School, and was part of the original definition of the mission of the school as what would be called today a vocational high school. The students were taught agricultural and industrial arts, and the school in its early days produced some if not all of its own food; the Dairy and its Milking Shed to the north served for the operation of a small herd of dairy cows.

The Dairy was constructed very early in the School's history, possibly before 1900, and was thus probably the oldest surviving building on the site (Keel gives the date 1903, without citing documentary evidence; there was a small herd of dairy cattle on the site by 1892, as noted in the Introduction, but the size of the original Milking Shed indicated a large herd; the style and materials of construction supported a date anywhere in the first decade of the School's existence, but not later). It was one of a group of buildings of agricultural function in that part of the site; to the east were the Horse Stables, and to the northeast was another barn. Its original function was maintained until about 1940 (1910, 1914, 1939, 1951 Site Plans); from 1942 it housed part of the dehydration plant (Pierson, p.159); then classrooms and commissary (1960 Site Plan); and shortly after that was turned into a warehouse (1962, 1965, 1967 Site Plans). Its use as a Dairy, with the attached Milking Shed to the north, ceased before it was converted to classrooms in the 1950s. The Milking Shed was closed in and essentially disappeared at that time; the Dairy and Milking Shed finally became disused. The later alterations had diminished the integrity of the structure to such an extent that by 1990 only the east wall retained any of the

original character. There were no remains of whatever equipment might have been used when the building functioned as a Dairy.

## PART II ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION.

### A. General Statement.

The Dairy was a single story, rectangular building, with brick walls and a roof of corrugated iron carried on a timber frame. Originally attached to the north side was a Milking Shed consisting of a corrugated iron roof above a timber frame, unenclosed on the east and west sides.

1. Architectural character. The Dairy was an example of Territorial vernacular building wholly characteristic of its time and place of construction. Common materials -- brick, timber, corrugated iron -- simply employed made up the entire statement.
2. Condition of fabric. Fair, but with significant alterations and additions.

### B. Description.

#### Exterior.

The Dairy was a single story, rectangular building with a pitched roof, hipped to the south, the long axis of the rectangle running north-south, overall dimensions about 31' east-west x 48' north-south (dimensions are approximate, due to later application of one or more heavy layers of stucco to original structural surface). Construction of brick, with concrete floor, roof of timber, rafters (nominal 2" x 6") at average 48" c/c, and purlins (nominal 2" x 4") above at average 24" c/c, laid flat, covered with corrugated iron, sheet size 24" x 8'-0" with 20 waves to the sheet width, amplitude 1/2". A roof monitor at the ridge was continuous from north to south over both Dairy and Milking Shed.

On the south (principal) face, in the center an opening 63 1/2" wide x 86" high, flat lintel over, with single leaf door flanked left and right by single side lights, 9" wide. On either side of the central opening, a window, 36 1/2" x 63" high, woodframed, double hung, 6 over 6, shallow segmental head over, wood framed wire mesh screen to exterior. The hipped roof originally extended to the south beyond the south face (and possibly also to the north beyond the original north face) to form a deep porch carried on timber posts, one at each outer corner ("Dairy Barn and Holstein Herd", ill. of ext. from the southeast, The Native American [1919]).

On the east face, to the south end, a doorway, 35" wide, near the center two windows, near the north end two more windows, all average 27" high, southernmost window 39" wide, other three windows 34 1/2" wide (dimensions are approximate, due to later application of one or more heavy layers of stucco to original structural surface), all openings rise to the same height, each covered by a shallow segmental arch at the head. All windows single light, woodframed, top hung, with wood framed wire mesh screen to exterior.

On the west face, to the north end, an extension was made at an unknown date (but appears on 1934 Aerial Photograph), projecting 84" from the west face, with a length of 27' north to south, the roof executed as the original, but openings of different proportions and details, windows steel-framed.

The north face is not visible, as it is hidden in the juncture between the Dairy and the Milking Shed to the north. To the north there stood originally a timber structure, about 26' east-west x 170' north-south, fully open to the east and west through a line of timber studs, concrete floor with central section depressed, corrugated iron roof above, used as a Milking Shed ("A Class in Dairying", ill. of int. looking north, The Native American [1919]). The roof was carried on a timber frame of 6" x 4" posts, 12' c/c, supporting open timber trusses. The Milking Shed apparently had an earth floor at first: "Cement floors were put in the dairy barn." (Pierson, p. 71 [1914]); "The concrete floor in the dairy [sic] barn was finished and stanchions were installed." (Pierson, p. 75 [1915]).

#### Interior.

Apart from the concrete floor and plastered walls there were no other interior details preserved.

#### Construction.

Foundations and floors of concrete throughout; walls of brick; roof of timber, covered with corrugated iron sheets, all as noted above.

#### Additions and Alterations.

It seems likely that the major alterations to the Dairy/Milking Shed occurred between 1934 and 1950 (1934 Aerial Photograph shows the west extension; 1939 Site Plan does not show the west extension; 1951 Site Plan shows the west extension; 1952 Site Plan shows the west extension and the altered south face). The hipped roof over the south porch of the Dairy was removed, and the south wall carried up to form a gable end. The gable was provided with perforations in a rectangular pattern of three rows of four small rectangular openings, for ventilation. In addition, the roof over the Dairy was raised to a height about 2' above the roof of the Milking Shed, and the roof monitor was removed from the roof of the Dairy, retained on the Milking Shed. The north half of the Milking Shed was demolished and a new building constructed to the north (1951 Site Plan does not show the north building; 1962 Site Plan does show it). The new building was a rectangle, about 46' N-S x 31' east-west, of concrete block, with a corrugated iron roof at the same height as the new roof over the Dairy, carried on open timber trusses like those over the Milking Shed, and lacking the ridge monitor. Somewhere during that period the east and west sides of the Milking Shed were closed in, and the original structure essentially disappeared.

#### Sources.

See Source List in Phoenix Indian School Report, HABS NO.: AZ-145. Drawings located: no drawings were located for the original building or for the alterations.

PHOENIX INDIAN SCHOOL, DAIRY/MILKING SHED (Facility Management Office  
Storeroom HABS NO.: AZ-145-B (page 5)

Project Information. This project was undertaken according to the terms of Subagreement No.2 to Cooperative Agreement No. CA-8000-9-8005 between United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service and the Arizona Board of Regents for and on behalf of Arizona State University. This project was carried out prior to transfer of the property from Federal ownership, and this property was documented as part of the 1988 Memorandum of Agreement among the Department of the Interior, Arizona SHPO, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.

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